

2 March 2006
Thursday

READINGS

Psalm 37:1-18; Habakkuk 3:1-18 ; Philippians 3:12-21; John 17:1-8

DEVOTION

There are two types of people who are reading this devotional right now. There are those who are going through a difficult trial in their life, and those who are about too. Where can we go when it looks like the trials of this life are almost too much to bear? What can we cling to in the midst of such times?

I think of a man named Horatio Spafford. This man lost his fortune in the great Chicago fires, then he lost his children at sea when the ship they were traveling on sank. What was Mr. Spafford's response when he was told that they were sailing over the very spot where his children were lost? It was this, "When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, it is well with my soul."

The fact is, sometimes there is no "why". In the midst of heartache and burden, in the midst of our unanswered questions and seeming lack of direction, we must believe with all of our heart that when all is stripped away from us but God, we still have God. He is a fountain of goodness, grace, mercy, truth, and love so much so that we are satisfied, full, and overflowing. God is good and His mercy endures forever. That is my conclusion to the whole matter. It must be.

When the storm clouds rise up, and the waves seem to be coming over the side of the boat, we know the Master of the sea and He has promised to keep us and never leave us. Never alone my friends, with Jesus our Savior we are never alone. The greatest hope we have every day is that when this journey is over we will see Him face to face. The Children of Israel said it this way, "even though we have no produce, no meat, no income, and no herds, yet will I rejoice in the Lord, I will rejoice because He is the God of my salvation".

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